



# Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2006

**File No. 188**

Senate Bill No. 63

*Senate, March 29, 2006*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT REGARDING STATUTES AND REGULATIONS THAT REFER TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Any general statute, local
- 2 law, ordinance, charter or regulation adopted by the state or any
- 3 political subdivision of the state that refers to persons with disabilities
- 4 shall utilize language that does not: (1) Imply that such persons are
- 5 disabled as a whole, (2) equate persons with their condition, or (3)
- 6 have negative overtones or have a derogatory or demeaning effect.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**GAE** Joint Favorable

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

Passage of the bill will result in no fiscal impact.

***The Out Years***

There is no fiscal impact in the out years.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**  
**SB 63*****AN ACT REGARDING STATUTES AND REGULATIONS THAT REFER TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires future new or revised state or local laws, ordinances, charters, or regulations that refer to individuals with disabilities to use language that does not (1) imply that such people are disabled as a whole, (2) equate people with their condition, or (3) have a negative overtone or derogatory or demeaning effect. The bill does not specify a list of prohibited terms.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BACKGROUND*****People First Language***

The bill requires state and local laws and regulations to utilize so-called "People First" language, which uses terminology that puts the person before the disability in order to describe the condition that a person has, not who a person is. For example, People First language uses "people with learning disabilities," rather than "the learning disabled."

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18      Nay 1      (03/14/2006)